

THE SHIP OF THESEUS

a paradox fit for *Master of Architecture* students

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Fig 2: The ship of Theseus (<https://thefunambulist.net/literature/philosophy-the-ship-of-theseus>)

A PARADOX:

“The ship wherein Theseus and the youth of Athens returned from Crete had thirty oars, and was preserved by the Athenians down even to the time of Demetrius Phalereus, for they took away the old planks as they decayed, putting in new and stronger timber in their places, in so much that this ship became a standing example among the philosophers, for the logical question of things that grow; one side holding that the ship remained the same, and the other contending that it was not the same.”

— Plutarch, Theseus

[Plutarch](#). "[Theseus \(23.1\)](#)". The Internet Classics Archive. Retrieved 2019/07/10

which is the *identical ship* to the *original ship*?

THE ‘*continuous ship*’, whose spatio-temporal history is *continuous* with that of the *original ship* or

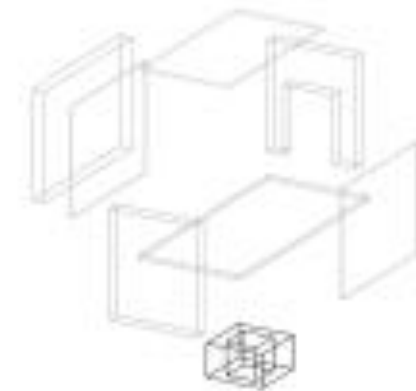
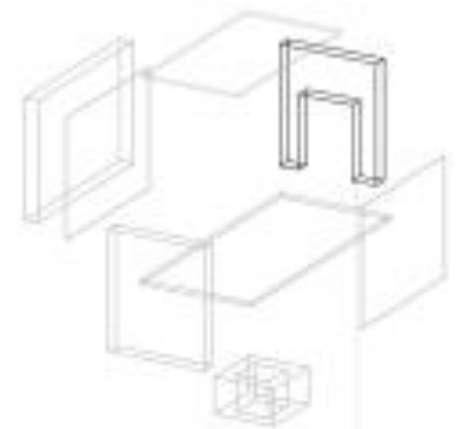
THE ‘*reconstructed ship*’, composed of the same planks as the *original ship*?*

philosophy of mind body versus soul in defining a person's essence or identity

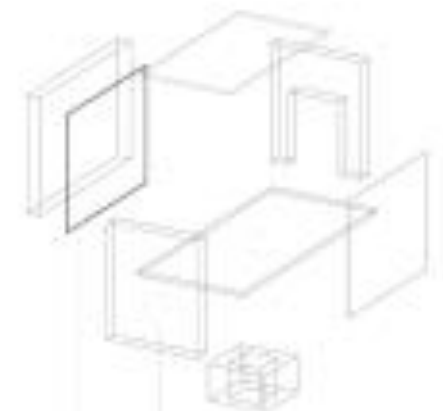
SHE | Morola Tolani



Recessed lighting in the center of the cabinet to create a warm glow for the model.



Materials: for housing the cabinet model which is placed inside the cabinet to protect it from dust.



Collective objects: To show the objects which are placed inside the cabinet to protect it from dust.

Materials: for housing the cabinet model which is placed inside the cabinet to protect it from dust.

philosophy/practical law: eg trade name disputed by founding or subsequent members

THE SHIP OF US | Tunny Lok Leung



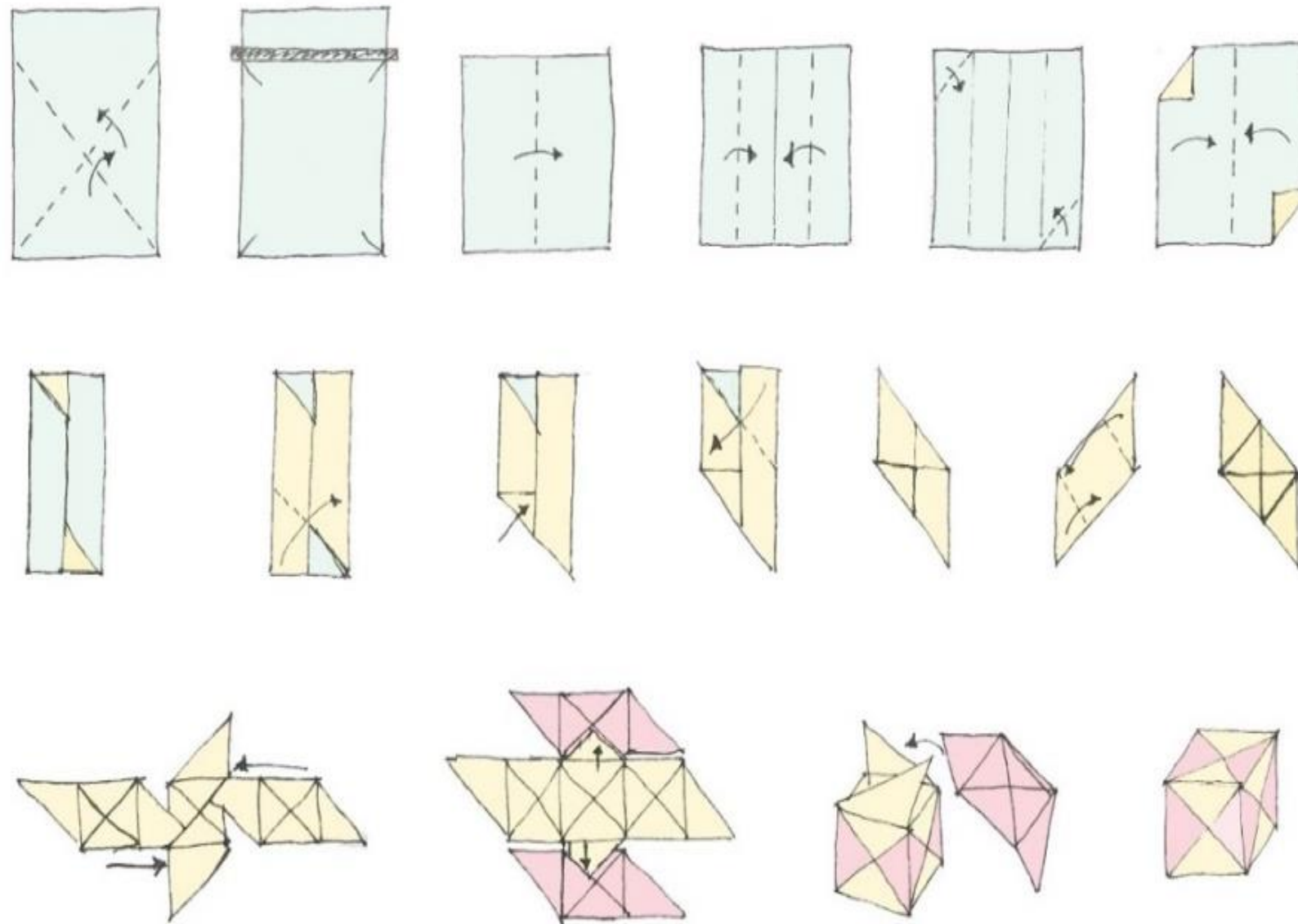
Aristotle's four *causes* or *explanations* which described a thing* :

- **Formal cause** or form (the *cause* of it having that form) = its design
- **Material cause** = the matter of which the thing is made
- **Final cause** or **end** = the intended purpose of a thing – for our students that would be the *function* (mythically, the ship's original function was to transport Theseus, while politically its existence as a feasible vessel served to convince Athenians that Theseus was once a living person despite the ship's material cause changing with time)
- **Efficient cause** = how and by whom a thing is made

*Lloyd G E R (1968) The critic of Plato. Aristotle: The Growth and Structure of His Thought Cambridge University Press

efficient cause: craft gives planks individuality

MAKING THE PLANKS | Nurfatin Syahirah Mohd Yusof



THESEUS' SHIP

In Theseus' Paradox, ship planks are being replaced with a new one. The existing planks are used to create the new ship. Now, which ship is considered to be the Theseus Ship?

Material; planks of the ship

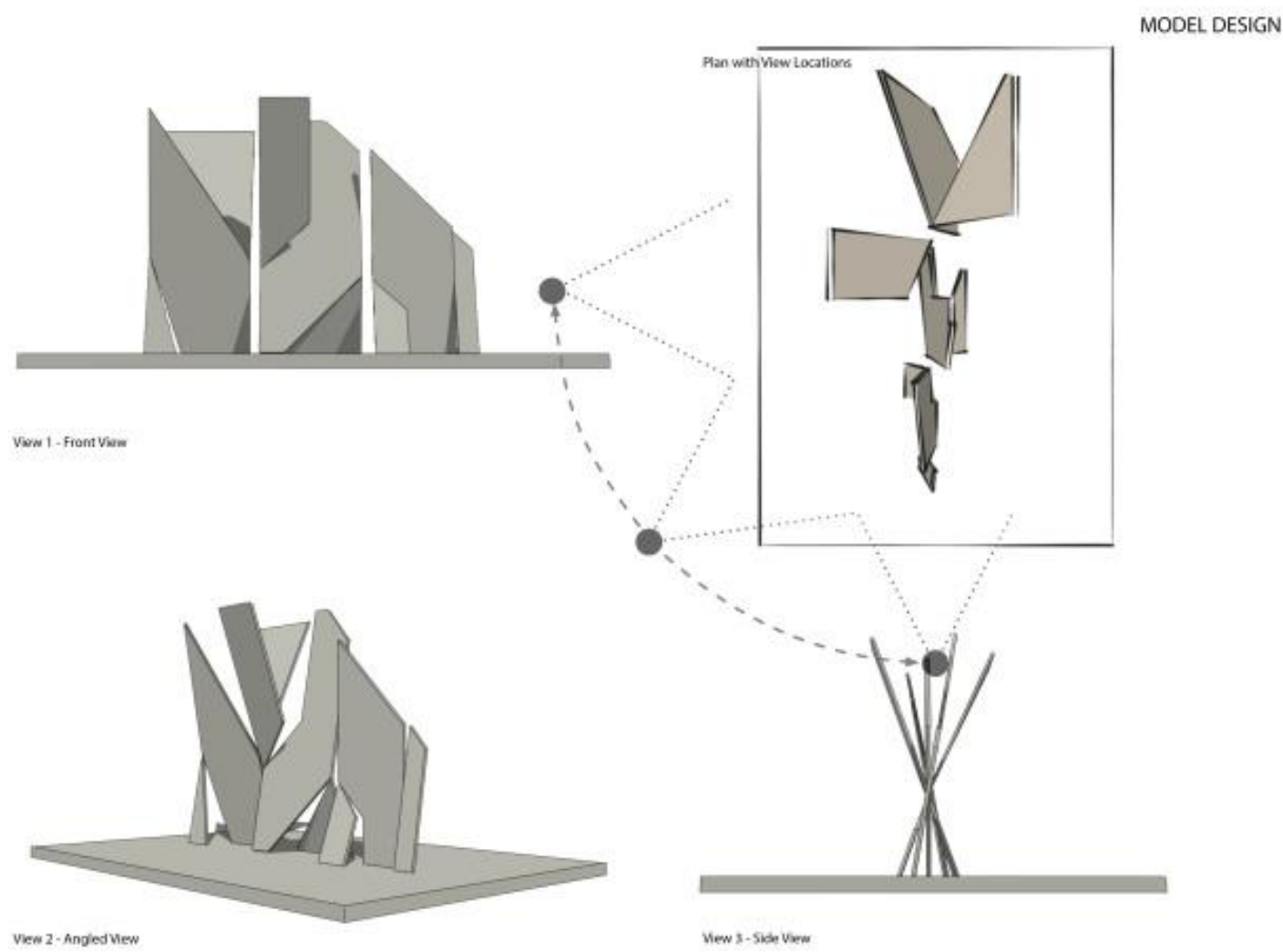
There is more to discover behind the idea of material which include the relationship between how the materials are being assemble and disassemble.

Paper Boxes

The process and technique of folding and making the paper boxes represent the idea behind the relationship between the ship planks.

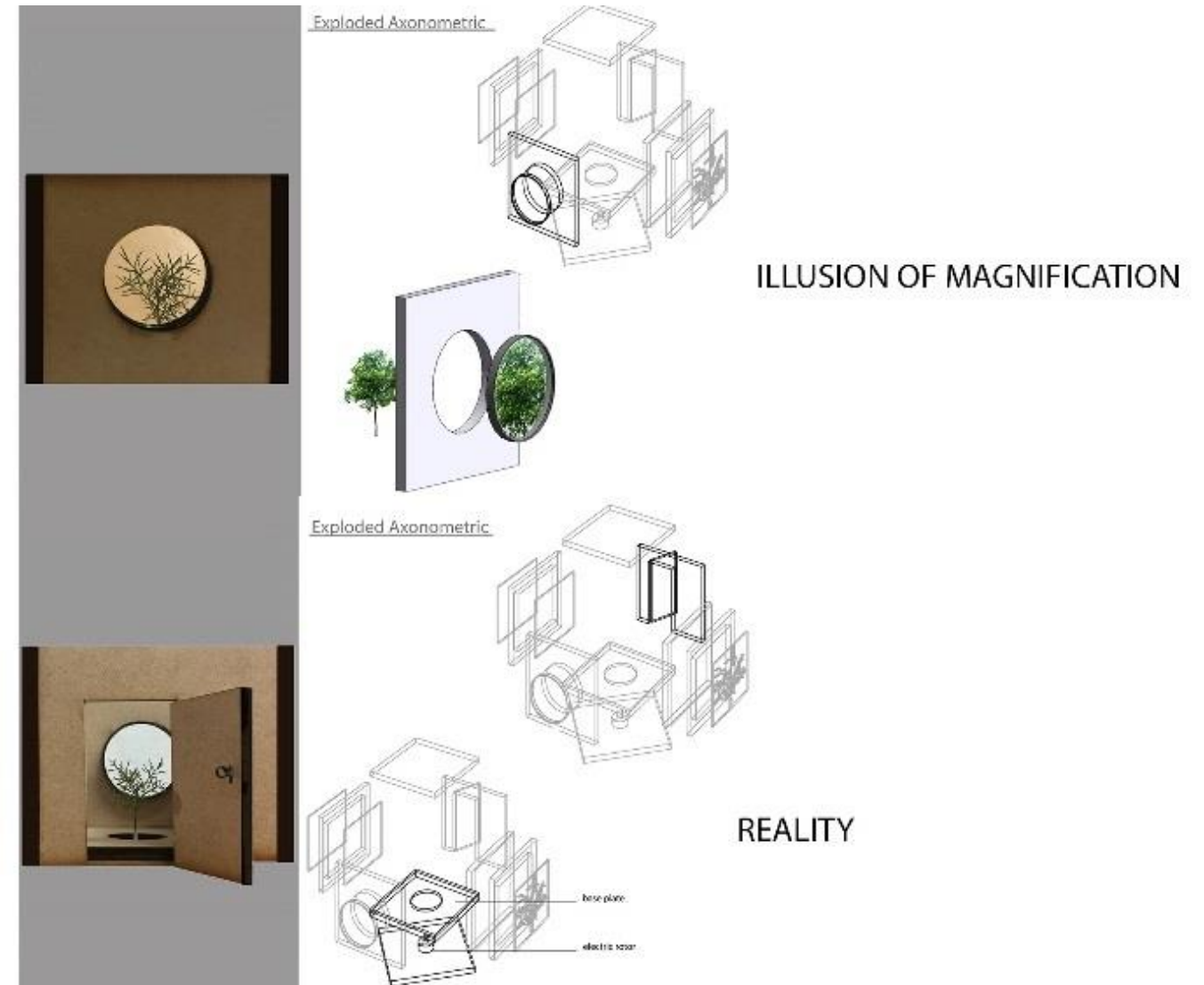
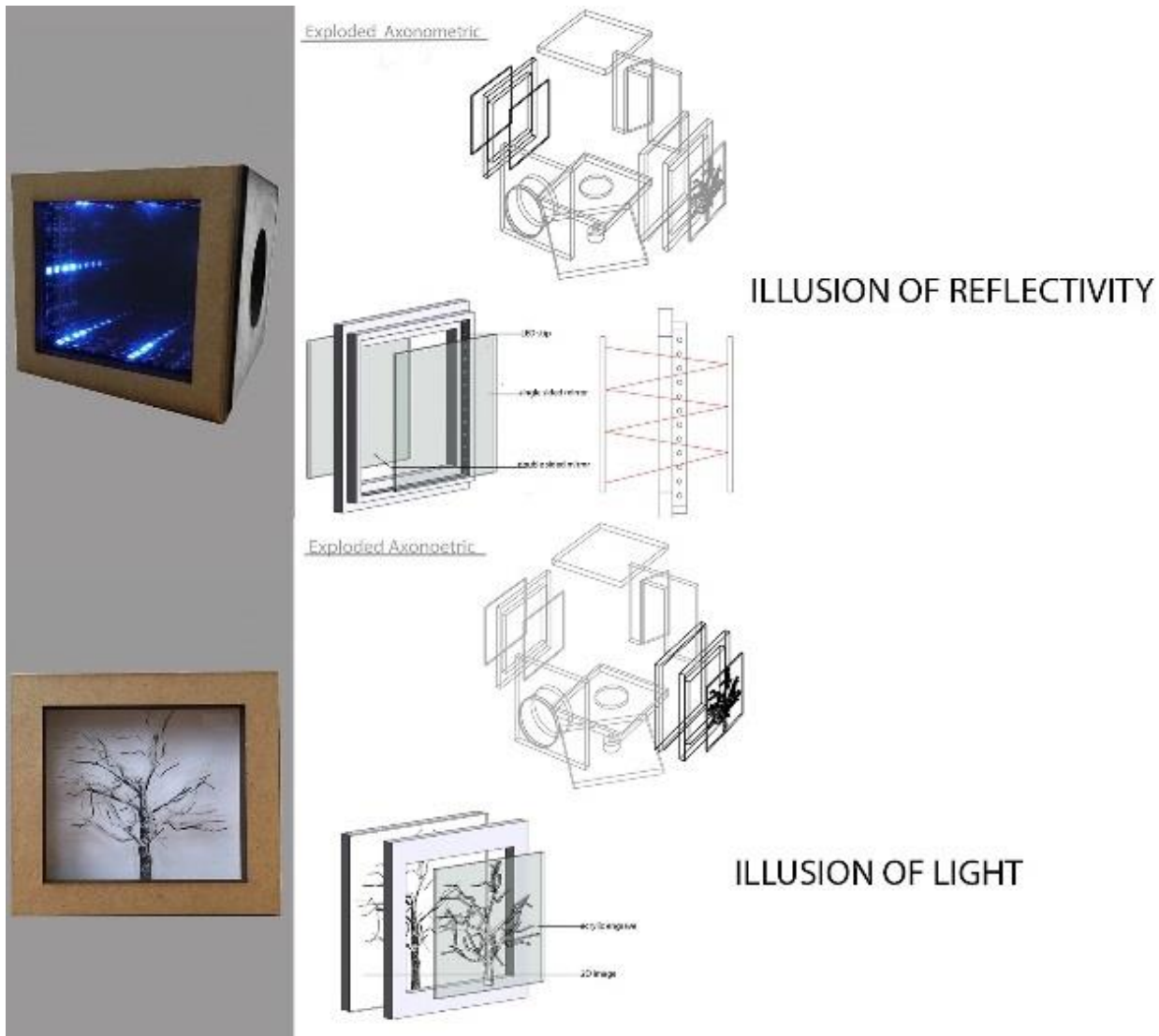
perception and points of view: what if its *form* ('what it is' of a thing) is dependent on your point of view?

IS IT A SHIP? | Fraser Swindell



physics of perception: commentary on mediated relay of information

BOX OF TRICKS | Oluwatomiwa Saba

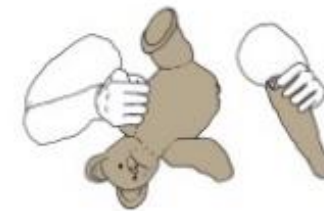


perception and projections: 'Wayang Kulit' art theatre, shadows are 'it'

IT'S AN ILLUSION | Farhan Ahmad Bin Syed Amanullah

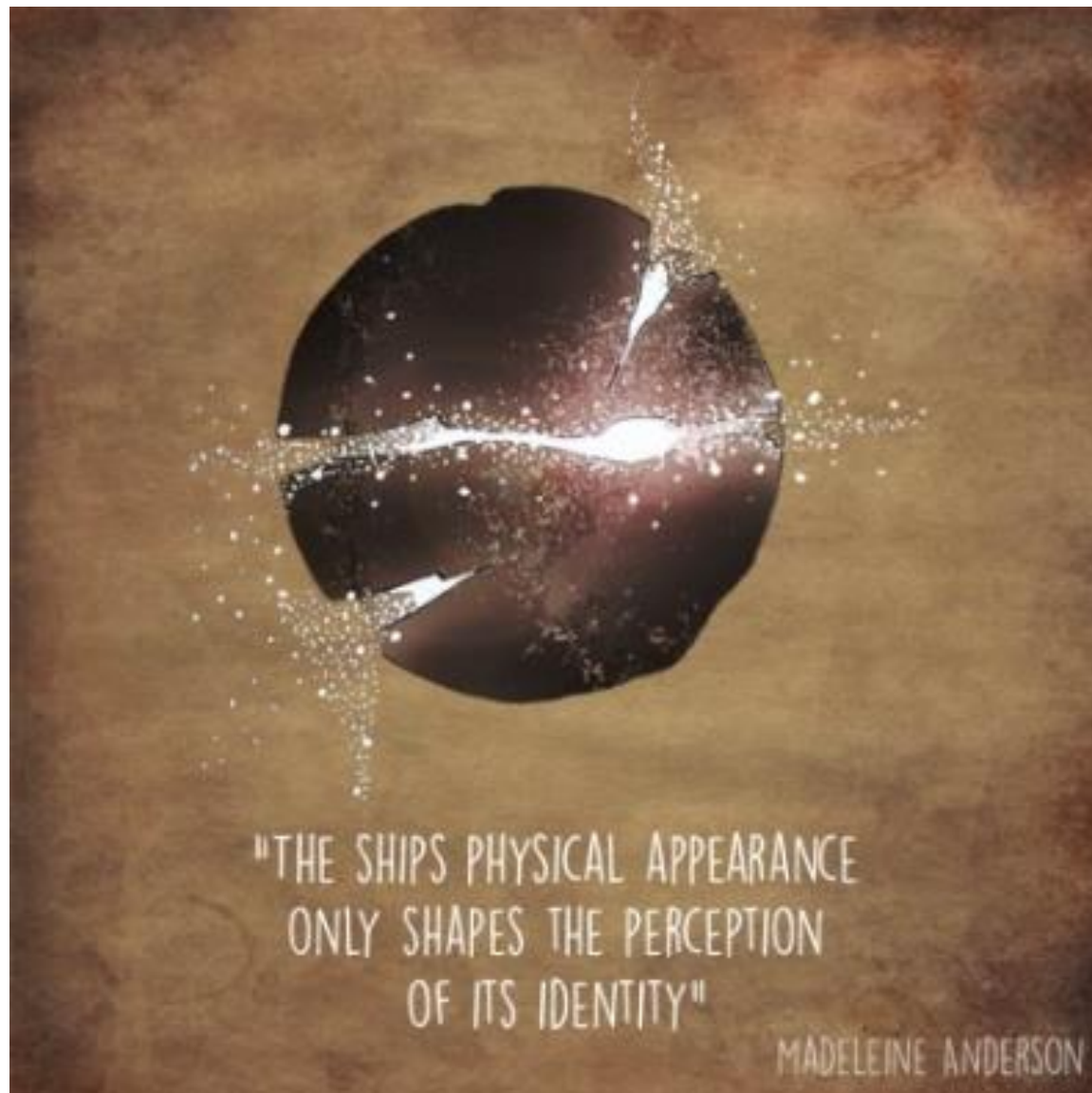


A TEDDY BEAR STORY | Lily Lambert



missing define the essence of identity

CONCEPT AND CAST | Maddy Anderson



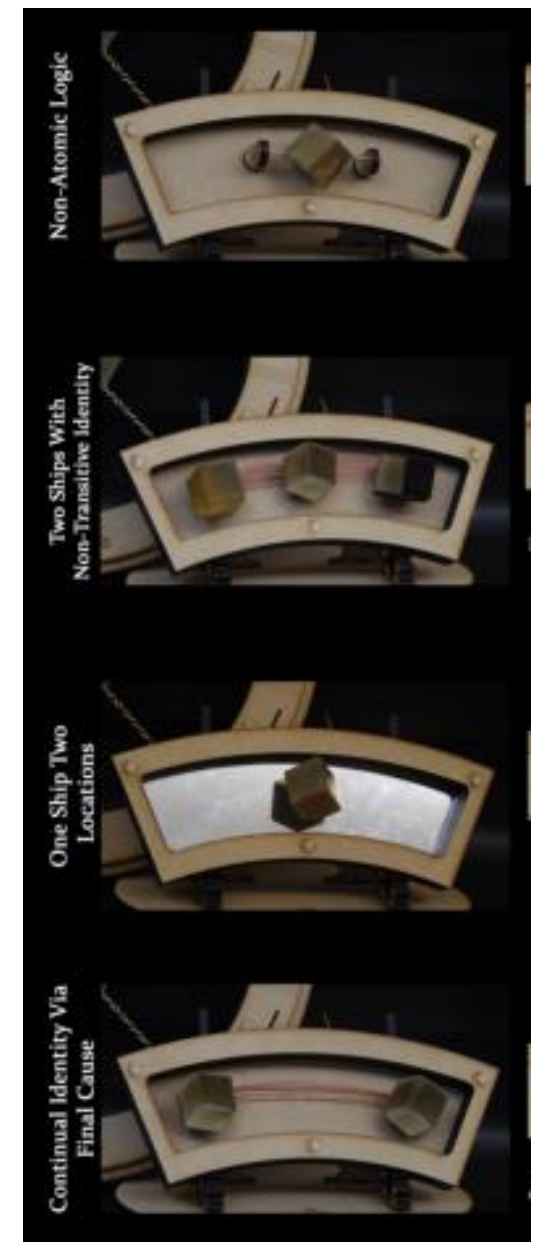
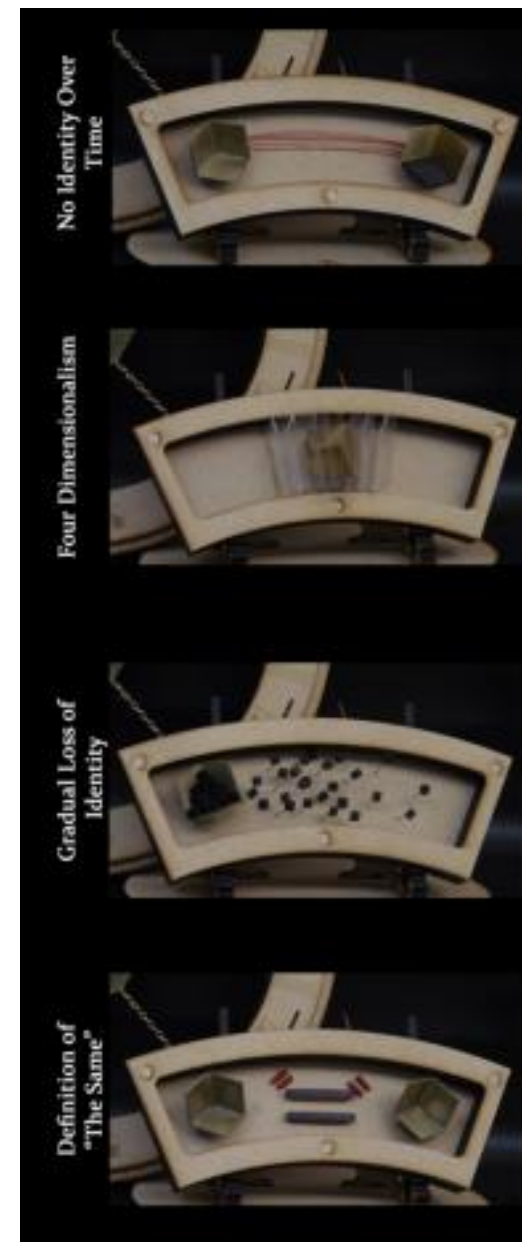
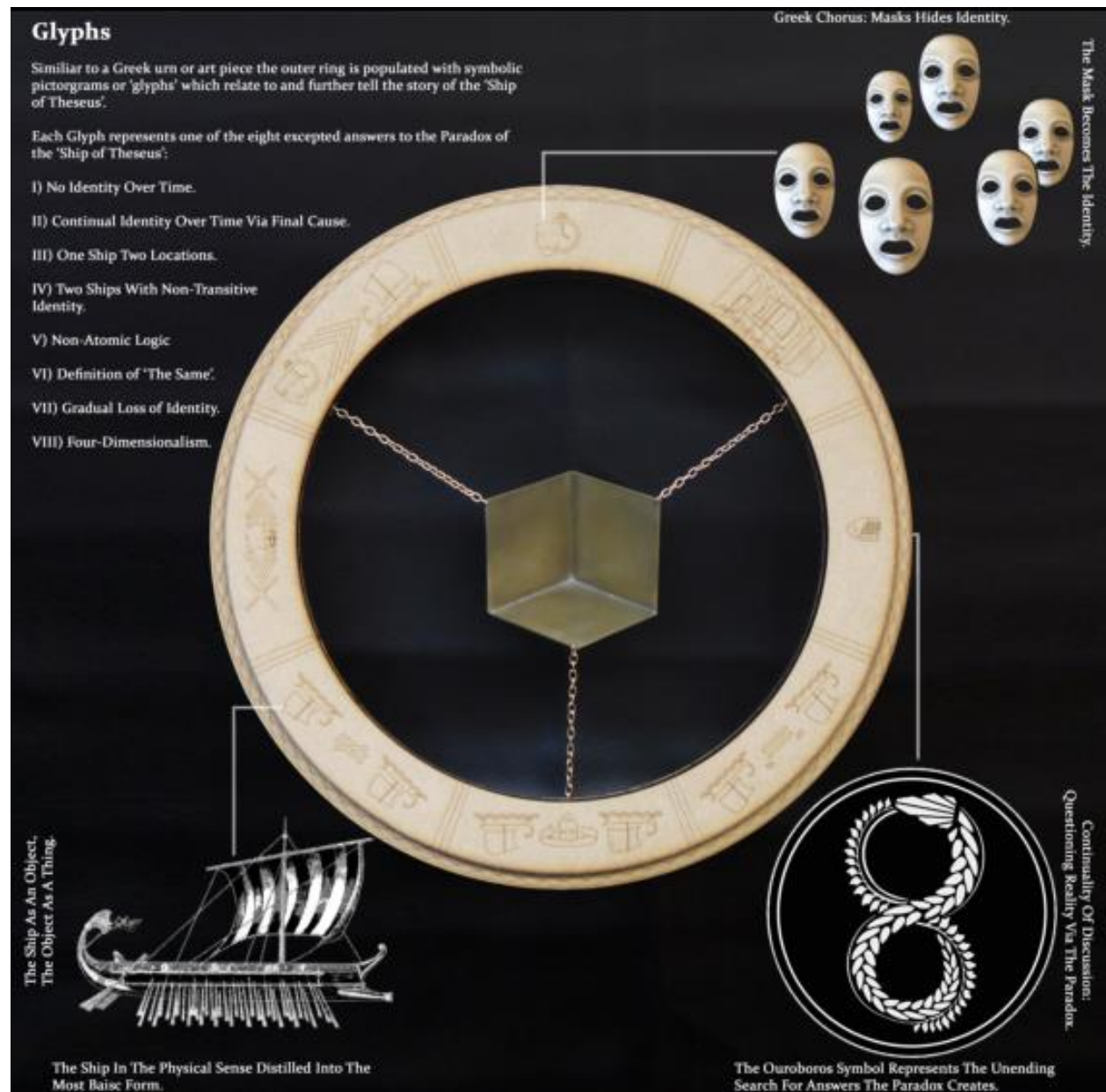
pedagogical paradox: why is it important which is Theseus' ship?

OBEJCT AS A PALIMPSEST | Harriet Oxley



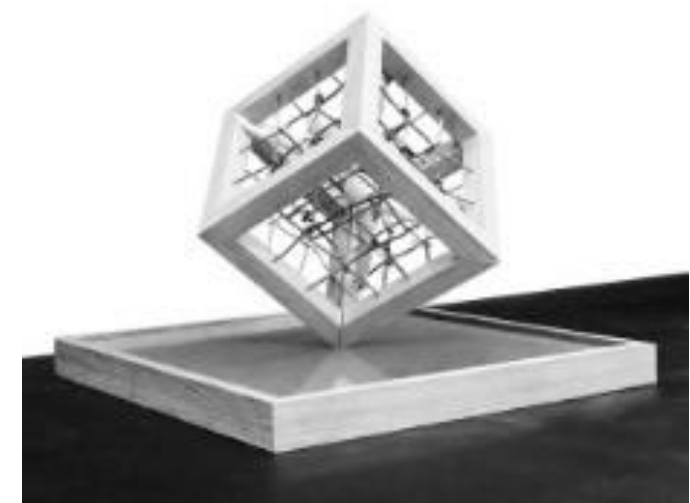
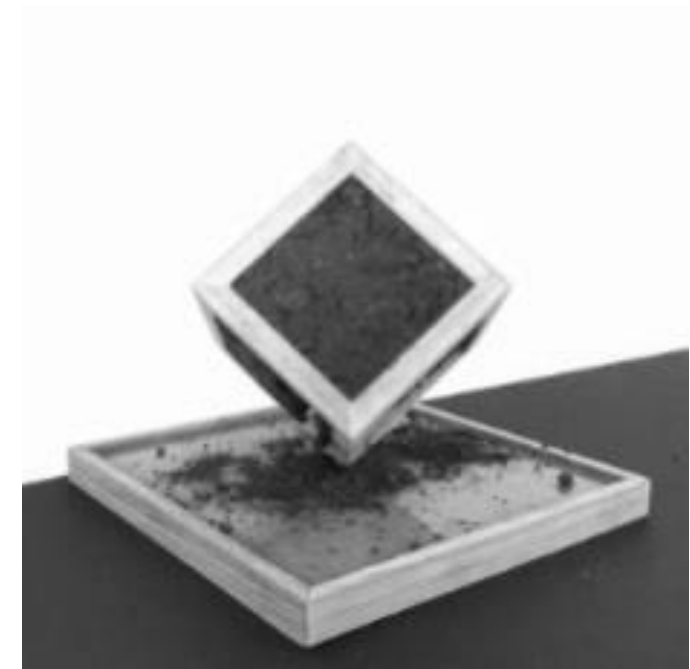
philosophical deconstruction of the paradox: a cultural reading

GLYPHS FOR DESCIPHERING THE PARADOX | Kenneth Smith



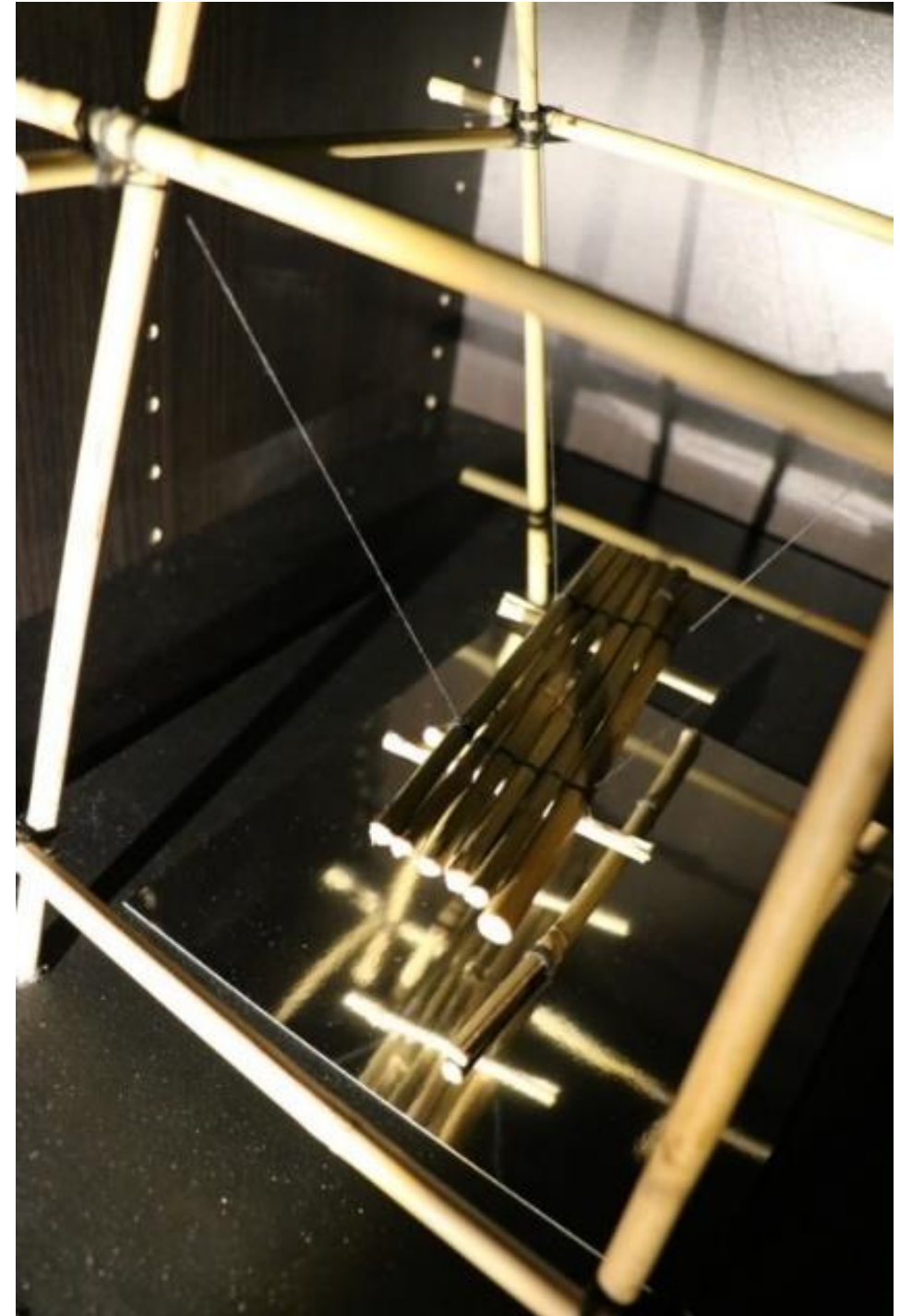
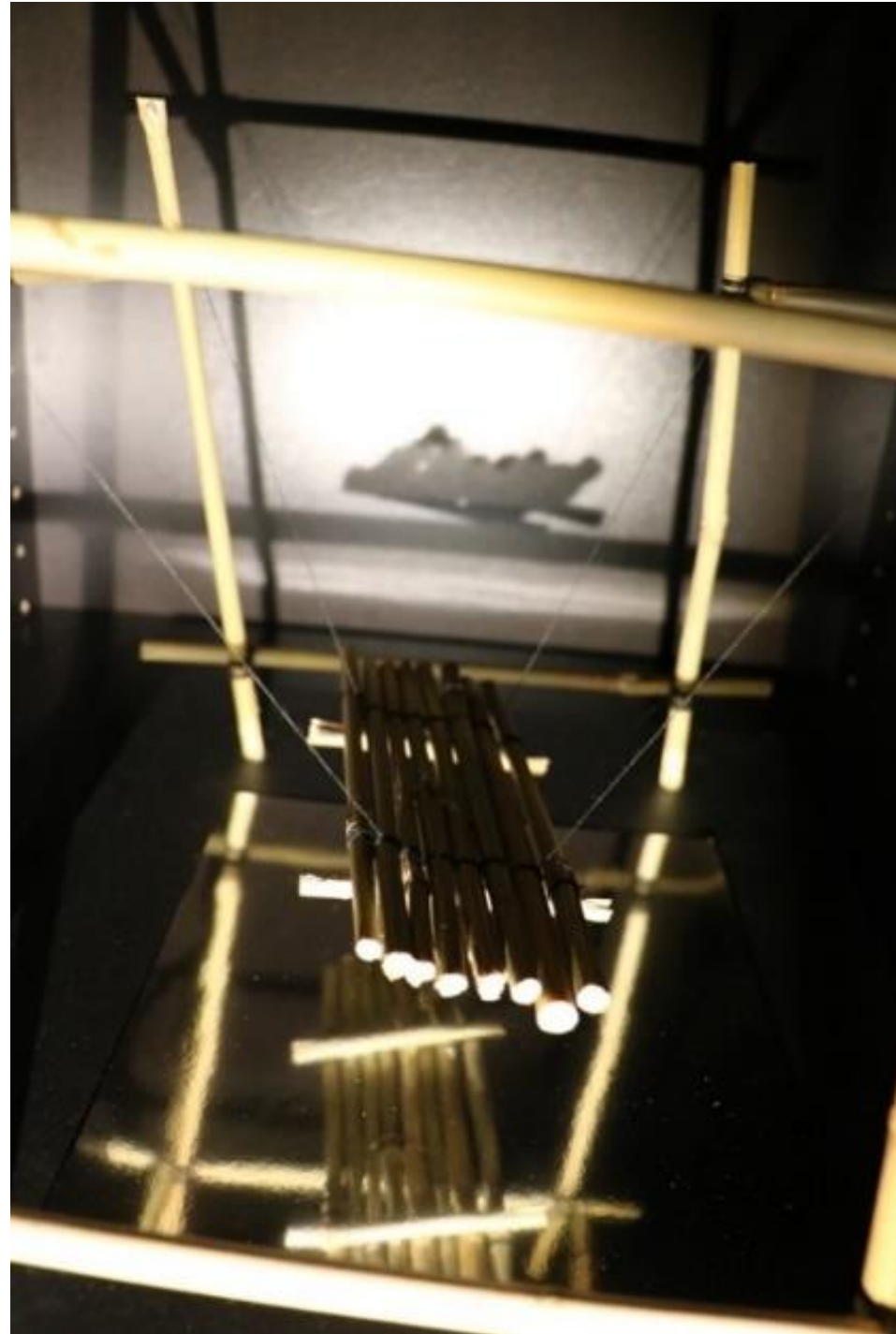
order versus chaos: human endeavour versus *time* and decomposition

ENTROPIC SHIP | Macaulay Curt



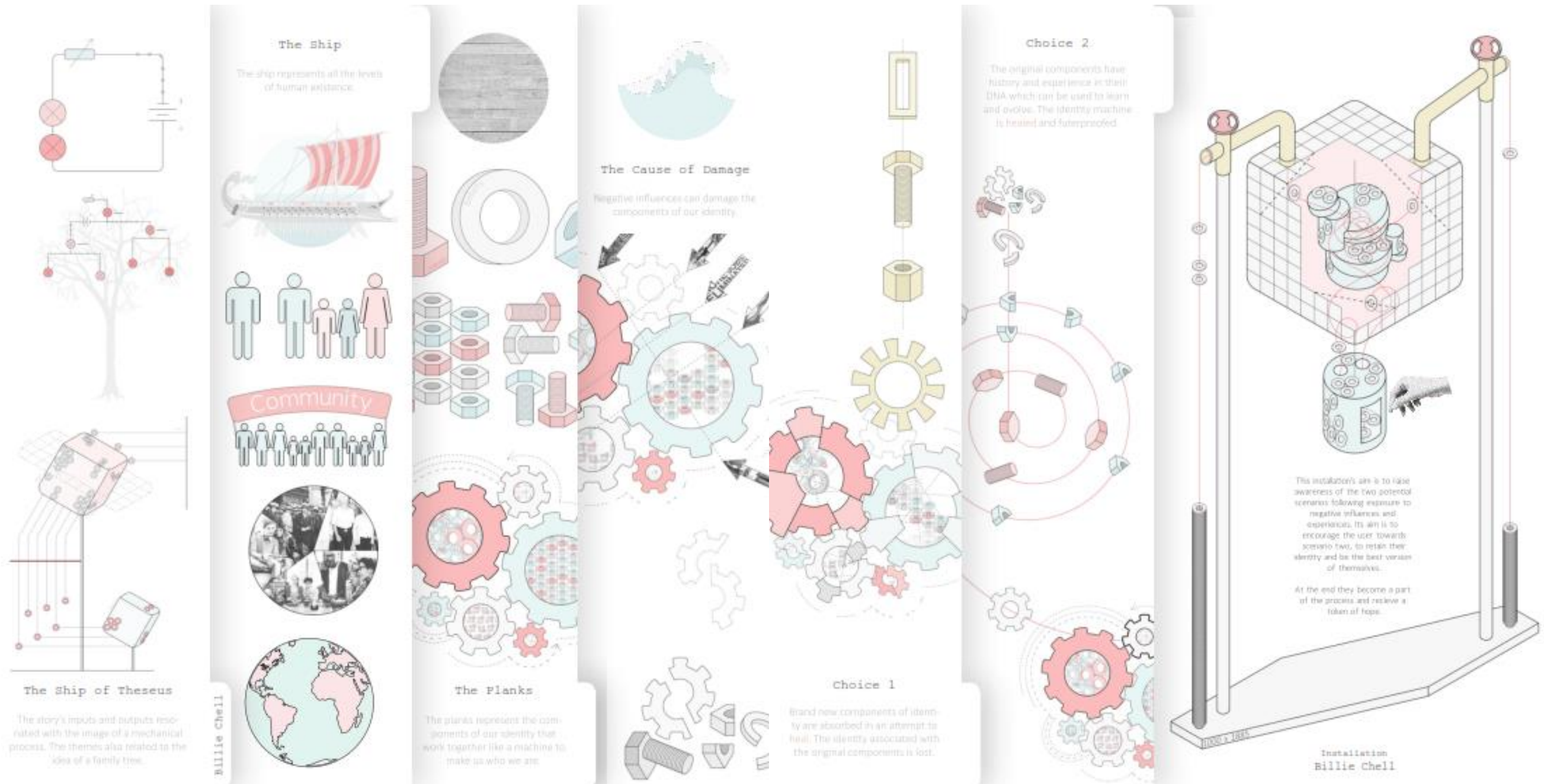
Plato's cave approach: what is known to us?

THE SHIP IN THE 4th DIMENSION | Yifan Shi



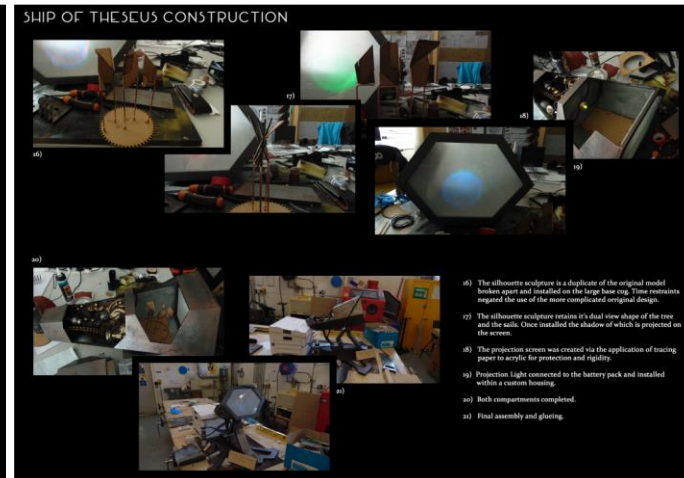
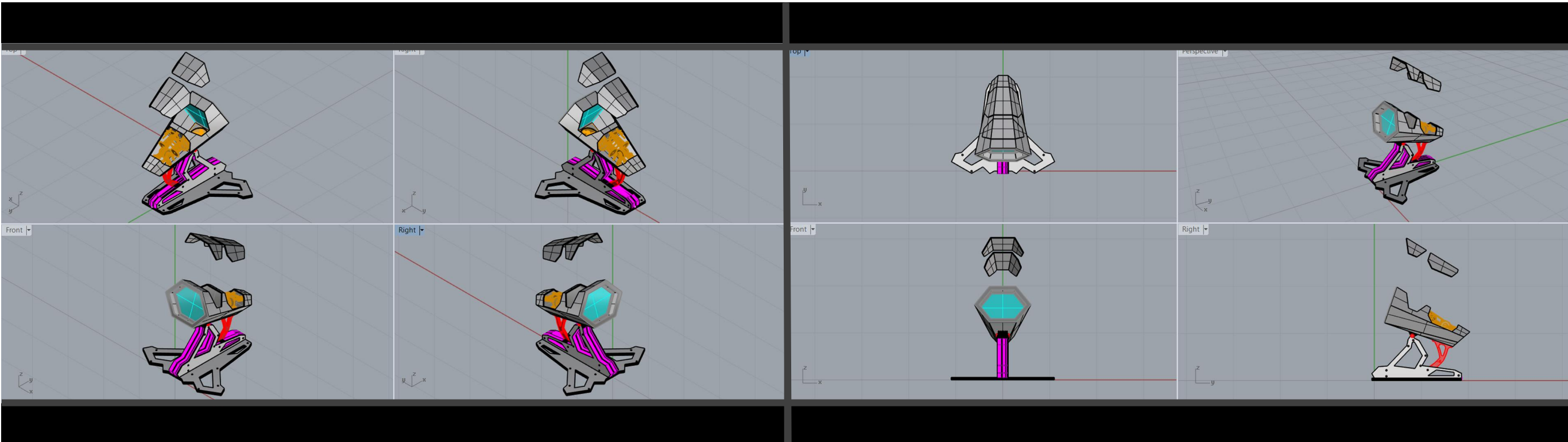
identity and growth: beneficial or damaging, change informs

CHANGE IS LEARNING | Billie Chell



GROUP WORK

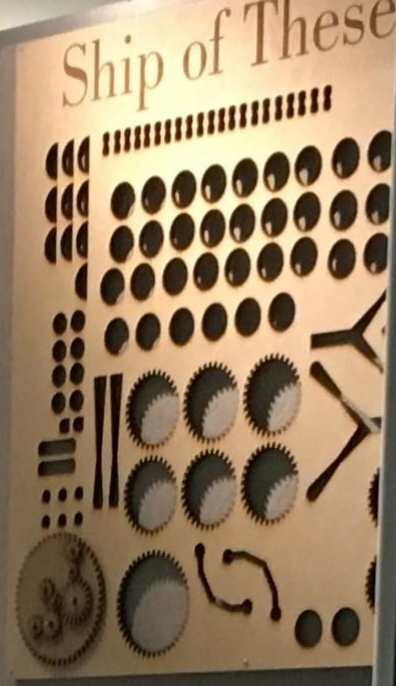
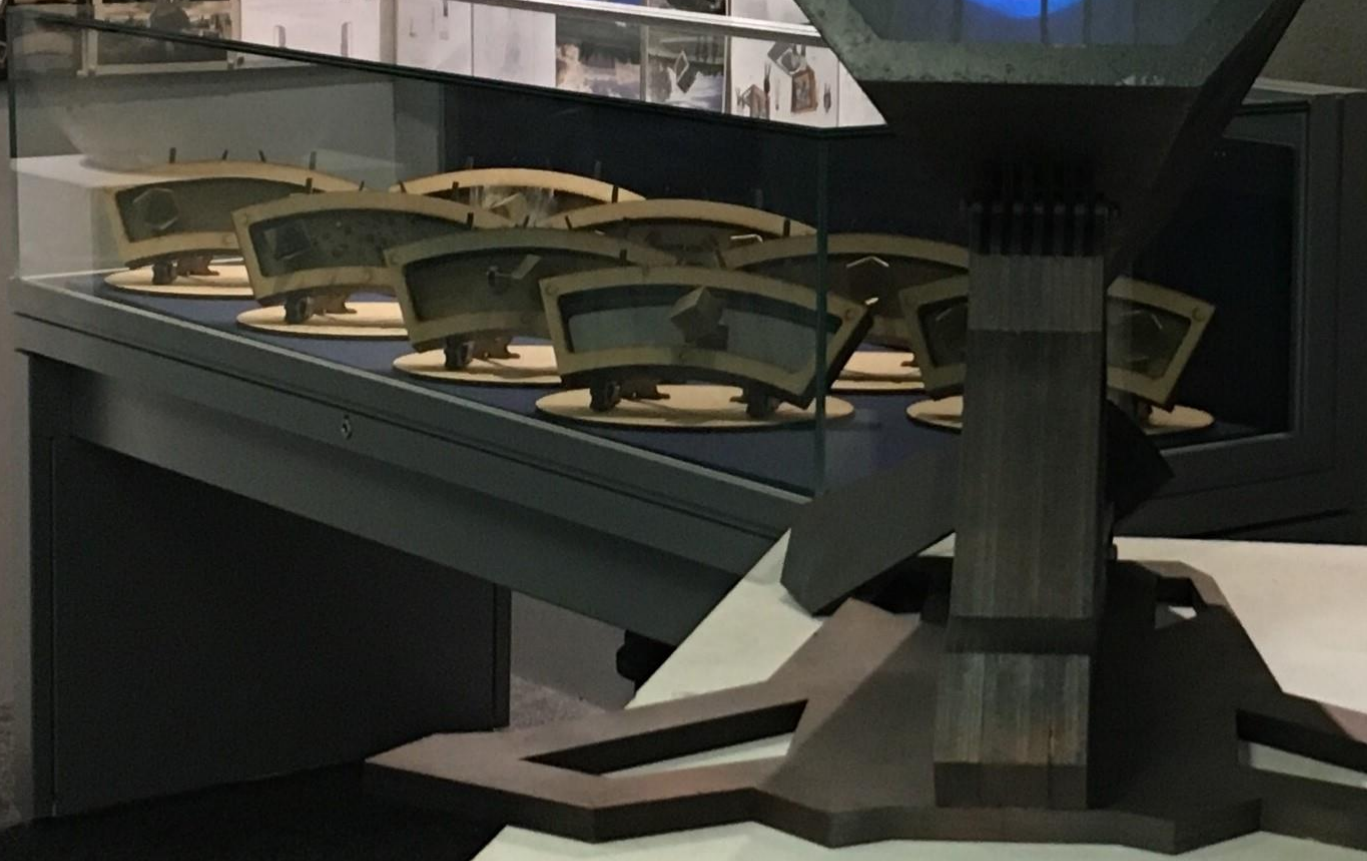
student led | division of labour | project management
design | write specifications | procure materials | cut | assemble | paint
public relations | exhibition design | exhibition set-up and down



SHIP OF THESEUS GROUP DESIGN

After consulting the client and the group as a whole it was decided to combine two projects which the client had expressed interest in into a single design whilst adding a mechanism which could be interacted with specified to be like those visible in Fritz Lang's film 'Metropolis' (1927).

This design also responded to the clients request for an installation which combined 'Profanum' (the mechanism) housed in the back compartment and 'Santorum' (the light projection) in the front.



Ship of Theseus
A Project by the Centre for Experimental Architecture
Lincoln School of Architecture
Inspired by the paradox of Theseus' Ship (as the pieces of the project was originally conceived of as a brief to simply create things—one sacred and the other profane. The project slowly display.
The thing itself is a lightbox that fulfils the brief on the level of a system of cogs rotate the upright pieces of wood behind the display either a silhouette of trees or ship (to represent the transition from origin into artefact). It is truly a fascinating thing with a screen, the hexagonal design of the Theseus device echoes a CEOLASABE collaboration: The Orgone Accumulator. Indeed the device was originally planned to be made out of the discarded the end this did not happen yet as you can see the shape of the partially persisted on into Theseus. Even if only at an informational one thing transformed into another—maybe the ORAC is the link sacred to the profanity of the Theseus device. Pondering this one inherent to the device further, we might also ask: which is the which is the profane—the trees or the ship?



Architecture may feed off a buildings being based on a House at Martha's Vineyard an influence over architecture done this. We might postulate great architecture) is defined concept of building a building and philosophical underpinning cynical building industry. Architecture needs architecture.

Libraries in fact forge a particularly interesting example of a relationship between the books or the building? It has something of the appearance and then you move the building. I may say 'no that's not what I particular building and then 'library' comes to be the housing it feels it would be this library regardless of the collection. The problem just have new copies of the same books in the same quantities and have the same library? We can go on like this. What we come to library itself offers a complex doubling motion in which it flits between profane). Like the Ship, there will be no definitive resolution
In Theseus' Ship we have a work inspired by a famous paradox, a appears in all three). The distance that the end product seems from conceptual paths trodden to get there.